CURRENT BOTANY
Curr. Bot. 2(1):32-33, 2011

REGULAR ARTICLE

Plants of ethnomedicinal importance from Yawalforest area Yawal, Jalgaon (India)

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KEYWORDS
Medicine, therapeutic properties, pawara, exploitation, cough

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EDITOR
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CB Volume 2, Year 2011, Pages 32-33

ABSTRACT

Ethnobotany is holistic study, which involves the reciprocal and dynamic aspect of interactions of Adivasis people with plants. There are thousands of plants that yields medicines are very useful to mankind .The plants which naturally contain certain chemical constituents having therapeutic properties are called medicinal plants .Several plants in Yawal forest area have potential of better economic exploitation.Tribal having tremendous ethnomedical knowledge that has passed from one generation to the next generation.Yawal forest area is store house of numerous medicinal plants, various plants are used traditionally by Pawara people in skin , diseases , cough , cold , asthma, jaundice, fever , indigestion etc. Present article deals with some important plants used to cure cough , cold , asthma, by Pawara people in Yawal forest area .12 species belonging to 11 families and their traditional uses for curing respiratory diseases are recorded.

Introduction

Ethnobotany can be defined as the total natural and traditional relationship and interactions between man and his surrounding plant wealth. The branch of medicinal science which deals with the drug plant is known as pharmacognosy. It is concerned with the history, commerce, collection, selection, identification and preservation of crude and raw materials the chemical substance present in the plants, produce a definite physiological action on the human body. The plants which naturally contain certain chemical constituents having therapeutic properties are called medicinal plants. In India earliest references of curative properties of plants appear in Rigveda Atharveda gives more detailed account on medicinal plants, There are 8,000 medicinal plants listed in different classical and modern texts on medicinal plants. 960 medicinal plants are in active use in all India trade, around 2,000species are documented in Indian systems of medicine like Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha.4,000 species are used by rural .tribal communities in local health practices. The all India Ethnobotany survey estimated that over 7,000 plant species are used by 4,635 ethinic communities for human and veterinary care across the country.Most of the work in 20 century on medicinal plants is carried out by Jain (1997) and Karnik (1955).

Adivasis noted in Yawal forest area are Pawara, Bhilla ,Barela ,Naire etc Pawara tribe is most dominant tribe among them.ThesepeopleareoriginatedfromPavagadha,Gujrat state Majority of the Pawara tribe is found in Madhya Pradesh(Srivastava, 1984).Pawara tribe then distributed at various forest areas, viz. Nandurbar, Taloda, Shahada, Shirpur, Dhadgaon and Yawal.

Material and Methods

Ethnomedico botanical surveys were conducted two times in the month of Aug, Sept & April , May 2009 in the tribal pocket viz .Manipuri ,Adagaon ,Kingaon ,Manudevi in Jalgaon Dist. The specimen collected during these surveys were identified & preserved .The field data was compared with the literature on medicinal plants of tribal belt of Madhya Pradesh .The medicinal application of 12 plants reported here which are used to cure ,cough , cold , asthama by Pawara people . The main methods used to collect data were- Direct field observation, plant specimen collection & identification.Species-specific information on plants in use. Interview was conducted using structured questionnaire prepared for Traditional Medical Practitioners (TMPs). Informations was collected for species found to be in use i.e. sold in market or administered by traditional practioners.Plants are identified with the help of Cooke flora (1958) and recorded during interview with most practitioners of drug plants are found in tropics growing in wild condition made by herbal doctors & Ayurvedic vaidu, who refer to them as a Jaributis. Herbarium specimens were prepared and maintained.

Observations

Enumeration of medicinal plants

1) Achyranthus aspera Linn. Amaranthaceae
Erect herb. Leaves elliptic, lanceolate,silky beneath. Flowers pale green. Simple branched spikes.
Plant parts used –leaves, whole plant.

2) *Bauhinia racemosa* Lam. Caesalpinaceae
Deciduous trees, bark dark brown. Leves cordate at base bilobed glabrous above
Flowers yellow. Pods oblong curved linear, seed brown.
Plant part used- Leaves.

3) Clitorea ternatea Linn. Fabaceae
Climber,leaves alternate imparipinate,leaflets ovate oblong Flowers white ,seeds yellowish brown.
Plant parts used- Roots, leaves, flower, seed.

4) Drema indica Jessop. Liliaceae
Herb,bulbs globose, ovoid, tunicated. Leaves flat. Flowers brownish purple,capsules oblong.
Plant part used- Bulbs

5)Emblica officinalis Gaertn. Euphorbiaceae
Deciduous trees with yellowish smooth bark.Leaves sub-sessile linear, lanceolate, glabrous. Flower greenish to yellow green, smooth.
Plant part used-Fruit.

6)Eucalyptus globulus Labill. Myrtaceae
Tall tree bark ashy-grey or white. Leaves lanceolate, gland dotted Inflorescence umbellate. Flowers white . Fruit hemispherical to broadly turbinate
Plant parts used- Leaves, bark.

7)Madhuca latifolia Roxb.Sapotaceae
Tall tree, bark black or ash coloured. Leaves elliptic-ablong.Flowers creamy white in dense axillary fascicle..Berrys yellow when ripe.
Plant parts used-Leaves,flower,fruit.

8)Mimusops elengi Linn. Sapotaceae
Tall tree,branched,bark dark brown.Leaves small ovate. Flowers whitish fragrant.
Plant parts used-Leaves,bark,flower,seed,fruit.

9)Nyctanthes arbor-tristis Linn.Oleaceae
Tall shrub. Leaves coriaceous,hairy,ovate,elliptic.Floers fragrant,in cymose.capsule orbicular,seeds black,flat,glabrous.
Plant parts used-Leaves,flowers,bark,seeds.

10)Ocimum tenuiflorum Linn.Lamiaceae
Erect much branches under shrub.Stem & branches purple,Leaves elliptic-ablong,entire acute with serrate margin.Flowers pale pink in terminal racemes. Nutlets brown ellipsoid.
Plant parts used-Roots leaves,stem ,flowers, fruits,

11)Terminalia bellirica Gaertn. Combretaceae
Tall trees, bark, ash coloured.Leaves petiolate. Flowers pale yellow in spikes. Fruits Brown.
Plant part used-Fruits

12)Tridex procumbens Linn. Asteraceae
Herbs,leaves opposite,ovate or oblong.Achenes obovate.
Plant part used-Leaves.

Conclusion

The tribal medicine men Traditional Medical Practitioner (TMPs) and old Pawara people of Yawal forest area possess considerable knowledge of the therapeutic properties of local plants .The younger generation has a poor phytotherapeutic knowledge. Generally leaf juice, decoction, extract pills of plant specimen is administered by TMPs in a proper dose.

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